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**Montana Department
of
Fish, Wildlife & Parks**



1400 So. 19th
Bozeman, MT 59715

October 20, 1994

TO: Environmental Quality Council, Capitol Building, Room 106, POB 201704, Helena, MT 59620-1704
Dept. of Health & Environmental Sciences, Director's Office, Cogswell Building, POB 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901
Dept. of Fish, Wildlife & Parks
 Director's Office
 Parks Division
 Fisheries Division-Bruce Rehwinkel
 Wildlife Division
 Lands Section
 Design and Construction
 Legal Unit
 Mary Ellen McDonald
Montana Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office, POB 201202, Helena, MT 59620-1202
~~Montana Environmental Information Center, POB 1184, Helena, MT 59624~~
Jim Jensen, Montana Environmental Information Center, POB 1184, Helena, MT 59624
Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon Council, POB 595, Helena, MT 59624
George Ochenski, POB 689, Helena, MT 59624
Beaverhead County Commissioners, 2 Pacific, Dillon, MT 59725
Jerry DiMarco, 2708 W. Mendenhall, Bozeman, MT 59715
Bannack Association, Inc. P.O. Box 1426, Dillon, MT 59725
Bannack State Park, 4200 Bannack Road, Dillon, MT 59725

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Please find the Decision Notice for the fencing project at Bannack State Park attached.

Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,

Stephen L. Lewis

Stephen L. Lewis
Regional Supervisor

*Beaverhead
State Park*

**Montana Department
of
Fish, Wildlife & Parks**



**DECISION NOTICE
For Fence Project
At Bannack State Park
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Region 3 - 1400 S. 19th
Bozeman, MT 59715
October 17, 1994**

The Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks proposes to construct a fence around the Bannack Townsite. The fence will be a combination of jack leg and barb wire and will serve to prevent livestock encroachment into the Bannack Townsite, picnic area and campgrounds.

The department received two written comments on the Environmental Assessment (EA). The comments concerned the increase in fire hazard with the elimination of grazing in the townsite, and the need for a fire/vegetation management plan. Comments also recommended cutting a 10 foot corridor around all of the buildings in the park. An additional comment recommended that only wooden fence posts be utilized as they would be more compatible with the area aesthetically.

Based on these comments, a vegetation/fire management section will be included in a Natural Resources Management Plan that is being developed at the park. Issues such as fire breaks and clearing around buildings will be analyzed and discussed in this plan and management recommendations made. Wooden jack leg construction will be utilized in visible areas, however, due to the rocky terrain some metal fence posts and barb wire will be required.

No changes will be made to the draft EA and this decision notice will act as a supplement which changes the draft to the final EA.

The department has evaluated the EA and applicable laws, regulations and policies and has determined that this action will not have a significant effect on the human and natural environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared.

The department's decision is to implement Alternative 3 which is to fence the park along natural contours and in the best interest of cattle/livestock management and aesthetics, as described in the Environmental Assessment. Work will be scheduled to begin on October 17, 1994.

The EA may be viewed or obtained from the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Bozeman, Montana. Please direct requests and questions to:

Stephen L. Lewis, Regional Supervisor
1400 S. 19th
Bozeman, MT 59715
(406) 994-4042